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of that end into a strong solid basal angle, and the expansion of the inner basal outline. The angle formed by the meeting of the inner and under faces of the bulla is more acute, from the greater flattening of the former.

These differ as much from *Balæna mysticetus angulata*,\* *Gray*. The long section of the opening is narrower, and the short portion shorter; the external basal angle opposite this portion, as well as the pocket, is not represented in *Gray's* figure. The former feature, with the greater prominence of the long external inflations at the other end, gives a very different inferior view, from the greater breadth, etc. The characteristic angle of *Dr. Gray's* figure is also wanting in the *Salem* species or variety.

Another bulla from *Mus. Salem* (No. 113) is narrower on the inferior view than even the *cis arctica*, and the outer lip of the opening is considerably higher. The inner inferior outline below the long process is very obliquely truncate, and the outer prominence near it is directed more outward. The inner or thick lip is not heavy, and is much plicate. The inner inferior compressed margin is much less flattened than the other *Salem* variety, (111—112.) Locality unknown.

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October 3d.

MR. CASSIN, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Fifteen members present.

*Dr. Leidy* observed that the fine specimen of *Cryolite*, presented this evening by *Edmund A. Souder, Esq.*, was from *Ivigut*, *Arksuk Fiord*, *Greenland*, and was a sample from a ship load, one of a number of similar load imported to this place for the manufacture of soda alum.

*Prof. Carson* stated that he recently had an opportunity of ascertaining the plants from which the so-called *American Tea* is made. The variety called *Green Tea* is the product of the *Ceanothus Americanus*; the *Black Tea*, the product of the *Lysimachia quadrifolia*.

The death of *Dr. Francis M. Moore*, member of the Academy, was announced.

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October 10th.

The President, *DR. BRIDGES*, in the Chair.

Twenty-four members present.

*Dr. Leidy* made some remarks in relation to the specimens of oolitic phosphates of lime and alumina, from the *Island of Navassa, W. I.*, presented this evening. The material, he stated, was imported in large quantities to this place, by *Messrs. Potts and Klett*, and was employed in the manufacture of a fertilizer. The mineral presents several varieties of color, but is especially remarkable for its constitution, resembling that of ordinary oolite. *Dr. L.* supposed that it was probably of organic origin, though the reverse opinion was held by persons of judgment.

*Dr. Leidy* further called the attention of the members to a collection of bones and stone implements, presented this evening by *Mr. Frederick Klett*. The remains were obtained from the *Island of Orchilla, W. I.*, from a deposit of guano, eight inches below the surface. The bones are parts of three human

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\* *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1864, 201.

skeletons, together with a few fragments of bird and turtle bones. They are all very friable and appear much eroded on the surface.

The human bones are all of mature age, and rather small. Most of them are portions of two skeletons, apparently a male and female; a few belonged to a third skeleton, apparently male. Of portions of three skulls, the most perfect is the greater part of a small cranium, judging from its size, that of a female. The base in advance of the occipital bone is broken away. The cranium is of the brachycephalic type and bears a near resemblance to that of the ancient Peruvian pattern. It is rounded or ovoidal, with a high compressed occipital region, with a quadrate outline viewed posteriorly, and an ovoidal outline viewed above and laterally. The forehead recedes in a gentle curve from the supra-orbital margins, and the supra-ciliary ridges are feebly developed. The greatest height of the cranium is on a line with the anterior glenoid tubercle and the centre of the sagittal suture. The biparietal diameter is 64 lines; the antero-posterior, from the glabella to the occipital protuberance, 76 lines; and the height from the anterior margin of the occipital foramen to the centre of the sagittal suture 64 lines. The breadth of the forehead at its narrowest part, just above the external angular processes of the frontal bone, is 44 lines; the height of the latter bone from the root of the nose to its summit is 49 lines.

Fragments of the other skulls indicate a larger size but the same form, except larger superciliary ridges. A fragment of the face of one of them exhibits the cheek bones prominent anteriorly, and the orbital and nasal orifices large.

The jaws are of moderate proportions and orthognathous. The teeth of all three skulls are of the ordinary forms. Those of two of the skulls are much worn. In one of the skulls some of the teeth had been lost during life, and the alveoli obliterated. In a lower jaw containing an entire series of teeth but little worn, the back two molars on one side present on the top of the crown a small cavity, probably the result of caries.

The remaining human bones consist of a few vertebræ with fragments of others, fragments of two scapulæ and innominata, a number of long bones of the extremities, and a few small bones of the feet.

The collection contains four humeri belonging to three skeletons. Two from one of the larger skeletons measure 12 inches in length from the summit of the head to the edge of the inner articular condyle, and 2 inches 10 lines in circumference, just below the deltoid insertion. A third humerus, apparently from the same skeleton as the more perfect cranium before indicated, is of more delicate form, 11½ inches in length, and 2 inches 8 lines in circumference at the middle of the shaft. The fourth specimen, intermediate in proportions to the others, has lost the head, and is peculiar from the very prominent sharp angular character of the shaft internally. All the humeri present a small intercommunication between the fossæ above the ulnar trochlea.

The bones of both fore-arms of a larger and smaller skeleton exhibit the following measurements: larger ulna 10½ inches long; smaller one 9½ inches; larger radius 9½ inches long; smaller one 8 inches 8 lines long.

Of two femora from a larger and a smaller skeleton, both without the head and condyles, one has measured about 17 inches in length, the other about 16½ inches. They are more bowed anteriorly than is usual, and both present a greater degree of prominence of the linea aspera.

Four tibiæ, without the head, belong to the same skeletons as the femora. The larger, when perfect, measured about 13½ inches long from the front of the head to the end of the inner malleolus; the smaller 13 inches. The former present nothing peculiar, but the latter are remarkable for their laterally compressed character; the antero-posterior diameter of the middle of the shaft or the breadth of the internal surface being 16 lines, while the transverse diameter is but 9 lines.

The stone implements found with the bones are six stone axes, of compressed conical form, with a sharp trenchant basal border and a pointed apex.

[Oct.

Prof. Gill offered a communication on a new generic type of the family *Tapiridae*, of which two skulls, representing adult and very young individuals, are contained in the Museum of the Smithsonian Institution. The former indicates that the species attains a size superior even to that of *Tapirus americanus*, and that it is consequently much larger than the Tapir of Roulin. Both skulls were obtained, by Dr. W. S. White, on the Isthmus of Panama. The outline of the skull resembles that of the Pinchaque, (*T. Roulinii*, *Fischer*, 1829, = *T. villosus*, *Wagner*, = *T. andicola*, *Gloger*, 1842, = *T. pinchaque*, *Goudot*,) but the new type is distinguished at once by the peculiar development of the supramaxillaries, which are swollen above and in front of the infraorbital foramina, and thence extend upwards and backwards into a squamous portion which embraces with its fellow a thick, bony, nasal septum continuous with the vomer, and which is elevated to a line with the forehead, and has a widened upper edge, which still further enlarges behind and embraces the nasal bones. The grooves for the muscles of the proboscis are in front straight, entirely confined to the frontals, and do not encroach on the supramaxillaries; while behind they describe a spiral curve around a pit between the nasals and frontals. Other peculiar characters exist and will be hereafter illustrated. The species may be named *Elasmognathus Bairdii*.

Mr. Glenn, of the Museum of Comparative Anatomy and Zoology of Cambridge, exhibited to the Academy various beautiful microscopic preparations made by him.

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October 17th.

The President, DR. BRIDGES, in the Chair.

Twenty-two members present.

The following papers were offered for publication:

"Observations on American Fossils, with descriptions of new species." By T. A. Conrad.

"Third Contribution to the Herpetology of Tropical America," and "A Contribution to the knowledge of the Delphinidae." By Prof. E. D. Cope.

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October 24th.

The President, DR. BRIDGES, in the Chair.

Eighteen members present.

The following papers were offered for publication:

"On species of *Galeruca* and allied genera," and "Prodromus of the Anobiini inhabiting North America." By Dr. John L. LeConte.

"Notes of a study of the family Icteridae." By John Cassin.

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October 31st.

The President, DR. BRIDGES, in the Chair.

Seventeen members present.

The resignation of Dr. Rand as Recording Secretary was accepted, and Dr. H. C. Wood, Jr., was unanimously elected.

1865.]